

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

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61

ACTION SCI-06

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0608

UNCLAS ROME 9173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, IT

SUBJ: PROJECT SIRIO

1. SCIATT MET WITH PROFESSOR SCANDONE OF CNR RELATIVE TO HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO REVIEW, APPROVE AND TRANSLATE INTO ITALIAN THE NASA/CNR CONTRACT FOR SATELLITE LAUNCHING AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES TO BE FURNISHED BY NASA IN CONNECTION WITH LAUNCHING OF SIRIO SATELLITE.

2. PLEASE OBTAIN FOR TRANSMITTAL TO HIM CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENT STARTING WITH WORD "BUT" AND ENDING WITH "BENEFIT" OF ARTICLE XIII WHICH READS: "U.S. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT -- NO MEMBER OF OR DELEGATE TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, OR RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, SHALL BE ADMITTED TO ANY SHARE OR PART OF THIS CONTRACT, OR TO ANY BENEFIT THAT MAY ARISE THEREFROM, BUT THIS PROVISION SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO EXTEND TO THIS CONTRACT IF MADE WITH A CORPORATION FOR ITS GENERAL BENEFIT."

3. ACCORDING TO SCANDONE, FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER CIPE (INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING) WILL MEET TO RECOMMEND SPACE POLICY FOR PRIME MINISTER TO PRESENT TO PARLIAMENT. IT IS EXPECTED THAT MONEY FOR SIRIO WILL BE APPROVED; ALSO HE PREDICTED THAT ITALY WILL PARTICIPATE IN POST-APOLLO BUT WITH REDUCED FUNDING OF 2-5 PERCENT.VOLPE

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